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SAN DIEGO (AP) -- MIGUEL NASSAR HARO, FORMER MEXICAN NATIONAL SECURITY CHIEF, WENT BEFORE A FEDERAL GRAND JURY WEDNESDAY AFTER BEING SUBPOENAED IN ITS INVESTIGATION OF A MAJOR CAR-THEFT RING.

IN A SIDEWALK NEWS CONFERENCE, HE DENIED ANY INVOLVEMENT IN THE $9.4 MILLION THEFT OF 500 EXPENSIVE U.S. AUTOMOBILES THAT WERE TAKEN TO MEXICO.

NASSAR HARO EMERGED FROM THE FIFTH-FLOOR GRAND JURY ROOM AT 1:10 P.M., AFTER MORE THAN TWO HOURS OF QUESTIONING.

HE TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE HAD BEEN ASKED EXTENSIVELY ABOUT "THE MEN IN JAIL."

AT LEAST SEVERAL OF NASSAR HARO'S SECURITY AGENTS WERE PROSECUTED IN THE CAR-THEFT CASE, U.S. AUTHORITIES HAVE SAID.

PRESIDENT REAGAN FIRED U.S. ATTORNEY WILLIAM KENNEDY EARLY THIS MONTH FOR SAYING PUBLICLY THAT HE HAD BEEN UNABLE TO BRING THE MEXICAN TO TRIAL BECAUSE NASSAR HARO WAS A CIA CONTACT IN MEXICO.

NASSAR HARO ALSO TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE WAS NEVER INVOLVED WITH THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. HE HAS BEEN TERMED THE AGENCY'S MOST IMPORTANT CONTACT IN MEXICO BY FEDERAL SOURCES.

AN $11 MILLION LAWSUIT WAS FILED IN LOS ANGELES ON HIS BEHALF AGAINST TIME MAGAZINE FOR AN ARTICLE ALLEGING THAT NASSAR HARO WAS INVOLVED IN THE RING, HIS LAWYER SAID.

AN FBI AGENT SERVED NASSAR HARO WITH A SUBPOENA AS HE AND A SON SETTLED IN A LOS ANGELES TAXICAB TO BE DRIVEN TO THE AIRPORT AND A FLIGHT BACK TO MEXICO CITY.

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